

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of the claims replaces all prior claims presented in the application.

Claims 1-17 (Cancelled).

18. (Currently amended) A CHO cell deprived of a portion of the gene encoding for CMP-N-acetylneuraminic acid hydroxylase (CMAH) ~~according to Claim 15~~ wherein said portion ~~comprises is within encoding for~~ the sequence including and disposed between bases 787 and 1598 of cDNA encoding for CMAH.

19. (Currently amended) A The CHO cell according to Claim 18, wherein said portion has the sequence: SEQ ID NO: 1.

20. (Currently amended) A The CHO cell according to Claim 18 deprived of the portion of the gene encoding for the sequence of CMAH including and disposed between amino-acid 262 and amino-acid 532.

21. (Currently amended) A The CHO cell according to Claim 18, wherein said portion encodes ~~has~~ the sequence: SEQ ID NO: 2.

22. (Currently amended) A The CHO cell according to Claim 18, wherein the NCBI accession number of the cDNA is AJ242835.

23. (Currently amended) A The CHO cell according to Claim 18 ~~15~~, wherein the portion of the gene encoding for CMAH is absent from both alleles.

24. (Currently amended) A The CHO cell according to Claim 18 ~~15~~, wherein the portion eliminated has been replaced by at least one DNA sequence encoding for resistance to an antibiotic.

25. (Currently amended) A The CHO cell according to Claim 24, wherein the antibiotic is zeocine.

26. (Currently amended) A method for expressing a heterologous recombinant protein comprising culturing CHO cells according to Claim 18 ~~15~~, said cells having been transformed to express said heterologous recombinant protein.

27. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 26, wherein said protein is at least one recombinant glycoconjugate.

28-40. (Cancelled)